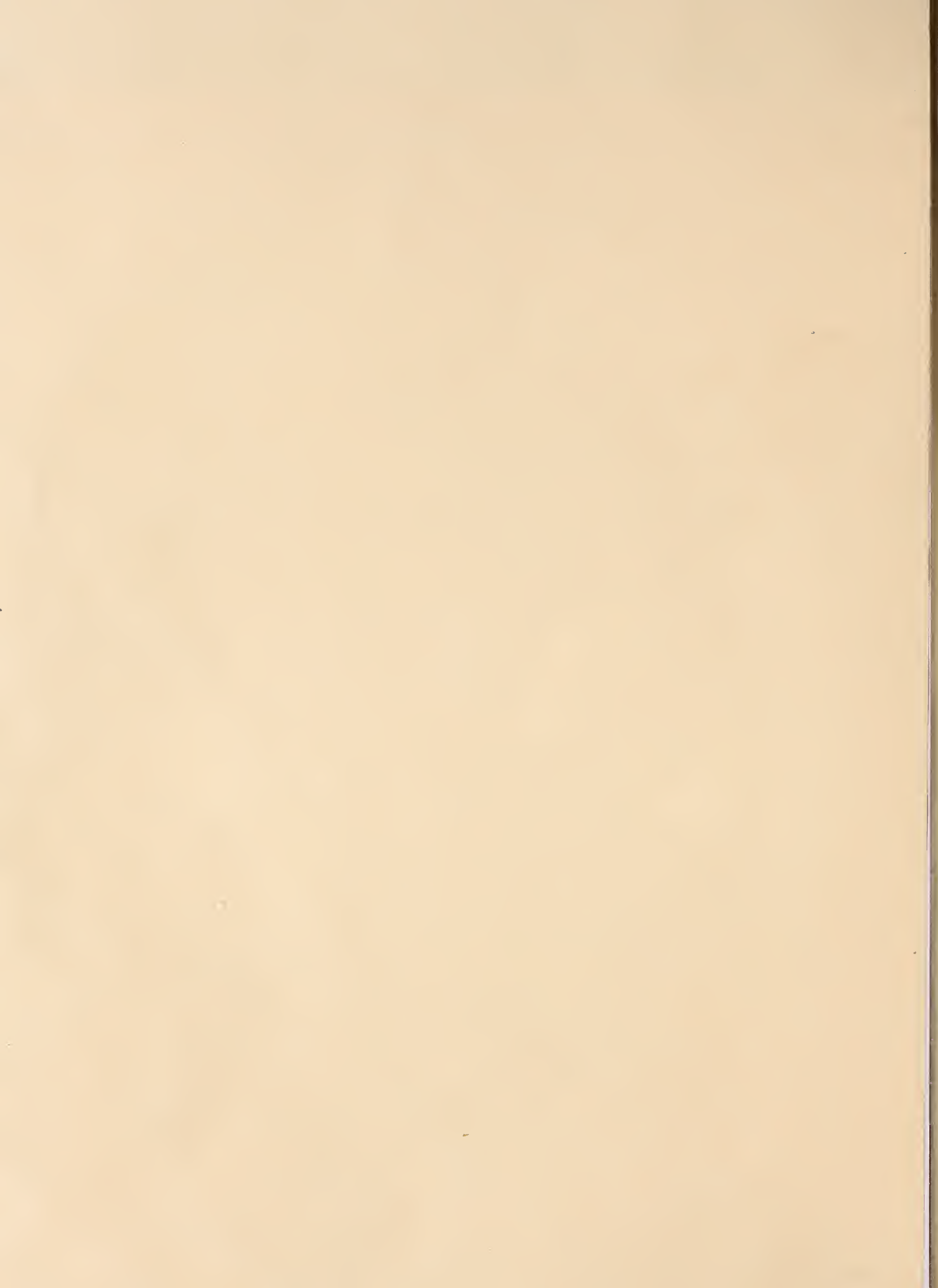


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DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXIX, No. 61

Section 1

June 27, 1938

U.S. MERIT SYSTEM

President Roosevelt has issued executive orders extending the merit system to everyone in regular federal employment except the highest policy-making office holders or persons specifically exempted by law. He directed that after February 1, 1939, all employees and most officials be selected and promoted on merit alone; forbade political activities by government employees or the use of political influence to gain government jobs and created adjuncts to the Civil Service Commission for operating and improving the civil service system itself. As a result of the orders, the commission said that more than 100,000 additional positions would come under civil service, including 71,000 persons in emergency agencies and corporations. (Press.)

ECONOMIC PLANNING

A five-year plan for expansion of major industries through the cooperation of industry, labor and government, under a government financial guarantee, was proposed by Mordecai Ezekiel, economic adviser to the Department of Agriculture, in an address before the Tamiment Economic and Social Institute at Camp Tamiment, Pennsylvania, Saturday. Economic planning as a means of conquering the depression and stabilizing the industrial and business structure of the nation was advocated by speakers who questioned the ability of private enterprise, unassisted by government, to cope with the problems confronting the nation. (New York Times.)

NEW BANKING REGULATIONS

Liberalized banking regulations to encourage the flow of private funds into the business structure of the nation were announced yesterday in a joint statement by the Treasury Department, the Federal Reserve Board, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation and the Controller of the Currency. The new rules, to become effective on July 1, will affect the lending and investment policy of every bank in the country. The principal changes in the regulations provide that bankers may make commercial loans for a period longer than nine months without criticism by examiners as "slow" as long as the loans otherwise are sound; and also that they may invest in the bonds of small local corporations even though the securities are not quoted on stock exchanges. (Press.)

WINTER WHEAT HARVESTING

Wet weather prevailed a good part of last week in the more eastern sections of Kansas and harvesting of winter wheat in that area is delayed, but considerable progress was made in field work in Texas and Oklahoma, combines in these two states being almost finished with their work, says a Chicago report to the New York Times.

"County
Agent"

Fortune (July) contains "The County Agent--in the person of J. U. Morris, educator, salesman and a working definition of democracy. Multiplied by 3,000 he costs \$31,000,000 and is all things to all farmers." The article says in part: "There are plenty of words like 'educator,' 'preacher,' 'organizer' to help define a county agent, but all of them put together won't tell anything about what J. U. Morris actually does in Pettis County (Missouri). Pettis is 150 miles due west of St. Louis and has 440,000 acres--acres that roll so gently into the sky that the horizon in most places is as broad as on a flat sea--divided into 17 townships and 2,700 farms averaging about 145 acres, supporting over 11,000 men, women and children. To these acres and these people John Uel Morris has a double responsibility. He must see that the acres yield sufficient crops to provide a decent living for their exploiters, and that the exploiters treat the acres with enough consideration so that they will go on producing. In other words, adequate farm income is his first concern; proper soil management and conservation to ensure future income his second. His weapon is knowledge and in a sense he is the little end of a vast educational funnel pouring information from the government laboratories and experimental stations on to the farms of individual men. But more than that, he is an interpreter and an adjuster, for when the agriculture of the laboratories is projected on to Farmer Brown's thousand acres it has a way of bumping into the frailty of human spirit and muscle, the intractableness of earth, and, worst of all, the lack of money to do things just the way they ought to be done. So there are compromises and short cuts, and Mr. Morris must be there to help make them...To see him at his job is not only a lesson in agriculture. It is a lesson in democracy as well, and if anyone doubts that democracy can work he is urged to go to Pettis County and watch it working like sixty. For J.U. has no authority whatever..... to make farmers do anything they don't want to do; never, not even in a time of great emergency like drought or an outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease, does he enjoy police powers. Always his work must be done by exhortation and patient example..."

"Encephalo"

Horse owners are urged as hot weather approaches to be on the lookout for symptoms of encephalomyelitis, an infectious disease that caused serious losses among horses and mules in the Mississippi Valley last summer. To aid horsemen to become familiar with the symptoms, the different stages of the disease, and the means of transmission, the Department has issued a 9-page mimeographed pamphlet with illustrations, by veterinarians in the Bureau of Animal Industry. The disease, also known as "blind staggers," "sleeping sickness," "brain fever," and by other names, is characterized by a mild indisposition, rise in temperature, distinct nervous symptoms and sometimes complete loss of appetite and ability to swallow feed or water. In the final stage of the disease the animal may go down and beat its feet and head about violently, causing severe bruising. Although the chances for cure are greatest in the early stages of the disease, there is no remedy effective in all cases, the pamphlet explains.

S. H. McCrory The John Deere Gold Medal, to be given annually by
Honored the American Society of Agricultural Engineers for "dis-
 tinguished achievement in the application of science and
art to the soil," has been awarded to Samuel H. McCrory, chief of the
Bureau of Agricultural Engineering. Mr. McCrory is the first to receive
the medal. The award was made, a representative of the A.S.A.E. said,
"in recognition of the high value to agriculture and to society of the
thirty years Mr. McCrory has devoted to research and research administra-
tion in the Department of Agriculture." Mr. McCrory is a native of Iowa,
a graduate of the University of Iowa, and entered the service of the De-
partment in 1907 as a drainage engineer.

Veterinary In "Out Where the Vets Begin" in Scientific American
Medicine (July) Edith M. Stern describes some of the work of the
 Bureau of Animal Industry. "...Skilled laboratory re-
search," the author says, "lies back of the strong-arm work of inspection,
testing, giving 'shots' and dipping. For the modern D.V.M. (Doctor of
Veterinary Medicine) is a scientist, and the old-fashioned horse doctor
is as outmoded as the buggy his patients drove. Not only members of the
Bureau's staff, but any veterinarian who now is graduated from a veteri-
nary school, must have at least a year of college work and four years of
training in a school of veterinary medicine. Knowledge of bacteriology,
pathology, and materia medica is as much a part of his equipment as it
is of the physician's. Like the research worker in human diseases, he
uses rabbits, guinea pigs, and mice as experimental subjects...Ten well-
equipped and competently staffed state institutions prepare veterinarians
for their work today. That work is highly complex. Though hog cholera,
for instance, occurs only in swine, bovine tuberculosis takes its toll
among swine as well as cattle and, to complicate matters still further,
swine are more susceptible to the avian form of tuberculosis, which
chickens have, than to the bovine...Small wonder that the Bureau's work
abounds in specialties. For the past decade Dr. J. E. Shillinger of the
Bureau of Biological Survey has been devoting himself exclusively to
pioneer work in the field of wildlife disease. Though technically his
department is not part of the Bureau of Animal Industry, his problems
are related to theirs...Behind the inspectors and the laboratory scien-
tists, is the presiding genius of Dr. John R. Mohler, chief of the Bu-
reau since 1917 and perhaps the leading veterinarian of the world..."

Grain "On Marketing of grain "on the hoof" is more popular this
the Hoof" summer than it has been in many years, livestock men at
 the Chicago stockyards said recently. With the grain sur-
plus from last year's crop unusually heavy, and livestock showing less
decline from 1937 than grain, some classes of meat animals are carrying
more grain to market, per animal, than ever before. There has never been
a time when swine furnished an outlet for so much grain per hog as this
spring and summer. Average weights at Chicago are running heavier than
ever before for this season and about 20 pounds above a year ago.
(Chicago Tribune, June 19.)

Erosion Control Calling for a democratic warfare against erosion which he said is directly costing American farmers \$400,000,000 annually, Dr. H. H. Bennett, chief of the U.S. Soil Conservation Service, in an address at the North Texas State Teachers College recently, said that floods and the dust devils of the Great Plains will never be conquered until the active support of all those who live on the land is secured. Farm organizations formed on a geographic rather than a township basis are necessary in the national warfare to save the Nation's precious topsoil, said Bennett, the fifth speaker in the series of lectures on the conservation of natural resources. Such organizations, he pointed out, permit the farmer, cooperating with government agencies, to strike at the heart of a dust-control area and work outward, and in a watershed to start at the crest of the ridges and work down, acre by acre, and field by field. Some sixty such districts have been formed and many more are in the process of formation in the 25 states which now have soil conservation laws, the United States soil chief said. Called in many states soil conservation districts, in Texas wind erosion control districts, these farm organizations are in most cases cooperating with the Soil Conservation Service, which is furnishing them with technical assistance in preparing surveys, developing farm plans and applying soil conserving measures. (Dallas Morning News, June 15.)

Private Game Refuges Archibald Rutledge, author of "Private Game Refuges" in the Farm Journal (July) says "the day may not be far distant when...a man will have to join a club which controls a private game preserve, if every landowner on whose property any game has its range does not set aside a certain part of his property as an inviolate game refuge. It is the counterpart of this plan which has been adopted by game commissions of several states and by the Biological Survey as well; and in some cases it has been the only thing that has saved certain great areas from becoming absolutely barren as far as game is concerned...We have often heard landowners advised to leave brush along their fences, in order to permit a part of their property to simulate natural and wild conditions. But I would go a step beyond that: I would implore every landowner whose place sustains even one covey of quail deliberately to run a wire around a certain area of his farm, estate, or plantation, establishing it as a permanent game refuge...For many years I have hunted quail on a 300-acre farm. About 60 acres of this farm are cut off from the rest by a small stream. Beyond the stream is a meadow, with a big patch of woods in one corner. The owner of this property has long given me the run of the place in the hunting season--with the reservation that I do not cross the creek, as he used the meadow beyond as a pasture for his sheep...The result of the landowner's understanding with the sportsmen who hunt his place, though that understanding did not have as its primary purpose the preservation of game, has been that this farm is one of the few places in a very wide stretch of similar country where quail can invariably be found..."

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Section 1

June 28, 1938

FOOD AND DRUG ACT

Announcement yesterday that President Roosevelt had signed the federal food, drug and cosmetic bill was hailed by Henry A. Wallace, Secretary of Agriculture, as a great step forward in the protection of the American public, says a report in the New York Herald Tribune. "It broadens the scope of the old law, and in many respects reinforces those provisions which have stood the test of time," Secretary Wallace said. "It will benefit also the honest manufacturers, who are entitled to governmental protection against unethical competitors..."

WAGE-HOUR LEGISLATION

President Roosevelt has signed the wage-hour bill. The act will go into operation October 24. On that date, officials said, some 200,000 persons receiving less than 25 cents an hour are to have their pay increased to 25 cents. The act applies to industries in interstate commerce, with some exceptions. They will be required to pay a minimum wage of 25 cents an hour during the first year after October 24. During the second year and five subsequent years the wage rate minimum will be 30 cents, and at the end of seven years after the act goes into effect, the flat minimum will be 40. The measure provides a maximum work week of 44 hours the first year, 42 hours the second year and 40 hours thereafter. (Associated Press.)

MEETING OF THE A.A.A.S.

Dr. Frank E. Lathe of the National Research Council of Canada, who yesterday opened the first of four general study sessions at the meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science at Ottawa, declared that natural and synthetic processes assure the entire world of enough food, clothing, fuel, light, power and even luxuries for centuries to come. Asserting that not all of the world's resources, particularly minerals, are equitably distributed according to the political and economic boundaries of nations, Dr. Lathe said this made impossible dreams of self-sufficiency by such nations as Germany and Italy, and expressed the hope that "individual nations may eventually realize that the highest standards of living for their people can be attained only through international cooperation and world peace." (Associated Press.)

CLASSIFIED CIVIL SERVICE

The executive orders blanketing more than 100,000 federal workers into the classified civil service yesterday drew from Dr. Leonard D. White, former Civil Service Commissioner, the declaration that legislation should be enacted to extend civil service laws to the remainder of the service. President Roosevelt yesterday also approved an act extending the merit system provisions to first, second and third class postoffices. (Washington Post.)

Civil Service The Civil Service Commission announces the following
Examinations examinations: specialist in cotton classing, \$3,800, as-
sociated specialist in cotton classing, \$3,200, assistant
specialist in cotton classing, \$2,600, unassembled, Bureau of Agricul-
tural Economics; chemical engineer (explosives manufacture and plant
management) \$3,800, unassembled, Navy Department. Applications must be
on file not later than: (a) July 25, if received from states other than
those named in (b); (b) July 28, if received from the following states:
Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon,
Utah, Washington, Wyoming.

Wheat Crop Noticeable improvement in wheat quality after two years
Testing of using the "crop testing plan" at Junction City, Kansas,
was the brightest feature of the second annual field day
held at the test plot outside that city this month, says a Kansas City re-
port in the Northwestern Miller (June 22). This system, started under the
leadership of Dr. John H. Parker, Kansas State College, and others, now is
used by Southwest Wheat Improvement Association in improving wheat quality
throughout Kansas. Tenmarq wheat, a new variety developed by Dr. Parker,
was the only type to receive an "A" rating at the field day. Of the 99
farmers' samples, 27 were graded "A" and all of these were Tenmarq. Chief
reason for this high rating was freedom from mixtures of weed seeds or
other grains. Attention was directed at the reasons for low grading and
importance was placed on the milling quality of good, clean wheat. So
greatly improved was this year's wheat over that of a year ago, in this
particular plot, that visitors were enthusiastic about extending the crop
testing plan into the rest of the five hard winter wheat producing states.
Only Kansas and Oklahoma now use this system.

Fairchild Museum News reports that the Fairchild Tropical Garden,
Garden Coral Gables, Florida, was dedicated recently with addresses
by David Fairchild (Bureau of Plant Industry) for whom the
garden has been named; Dr. Elmer D. Merrill, administrator of botanical
collections of Harvard University; Walter T. Swingle, Bureau of Plant In-
dustry, and L. H. Bailey, Bailey Hortorium, New York College of Agricul-
ture. The garden contains several hundred acres of land with three
varieties of soil-- high land, hammock (forest) land, and low land. Twenty-
five acres owned by the garden will be known as the Montgomery Palmetum,
with mango, avocado and citrus, also mammea apple and live oaks. This
twenty-five acres and fifty-eight additional acres were given by Colonel
and Mrs. Robert H. Montgomery; the remainder of the land was contributed
by the Dade County Commissioners, who retain title to all but the twenty-
five acres. Colonel and Mrs. Montgomery have given, in addition to land,
more than 200 species of palms and flowering trees with funds for plant-
ing and for roads, walls, etc., in the twenty-five acre tract. (Science,
June 24.)

Long Range Weather Forecasting The July number of Capper's Farmer says: "In a new service, starting in the August issue, Capper's Farmer offers a long range weather forecast, covering a six months period for the nation and for the Middle Western states in particular. Its purpose is to indicate in a general way what the weather will be, whether rainy with moderate temperatures, dry and hot, stormy and cold, or what have you. Brief forecasts for each Middle Western state by months, or for the period as a whole, will be included. No attempt will be made to predict when any storm will occur. The purpose of the forecast is to help farmers, in so far as possible, more advantageously formulate plans for the six months just ahead. A similar forecast, covering the period from January to August, 1939, will be published in the February issue of Capper's Farmer. This new service is being prepared especially for Capper's Farmer by Dr. Selby Maxwell, meteorologist and astronomer..."

Sugar Beet Seed Growing "A new industry in New Mexico, Arizona, California and the lower part of Nevada and Utah is the growing of sugar beet seed," says C. E. Hellbusch, in the Farm Journal (July). "Until recent years Germany furnished all the seed for Uncle Sam's commercial beet areas. . . In 1936, nearly 4,000 acres were planted in the Salt River Valley in Arizona, 1,000 acres near St. George, Utah, and Las Vegas, Nevada, and 1,500 in the Las Cruces, New Mexico, area. In 1937, there were 1,500 acres harvested in the Mesilla Valley in southern New Mexico. The average yield per acre was 2,000 pounds and it brought farmers seven cents a pound. Agronomist J. C. Overpeck, at New Mexico's state college, says it costs between \$50 and \$70 an acre to produce the seed. A variety resistant to curly top disease has been developed in the valley, and problems such as time of planting, rate of planting, irrigation and harvesting have been worked out with the help of the state college. Uncle Sam's 1936 beet seed crop was enough to plant 40 percent of the 1937 commercial beet acreage."

Radio News for Farmers Two recent developments in radio are of interest to farmers. One is a specially designed battery set made for farms which do not have electric service. It makes use of the invention of a new type radio tube, new batteries, new type of speaker, has better tone and greater selectivity. The other development is a new "mystery control", a little box which can be carried in one's pocket and with which he can change stations, adjust volume and even turn off the radio while sitting in his easy chair across the room, lying in bed upstairs or lounging on the porch--all without the use of a single wire of connection. (Pennsylvania Farmer, June 18)

Machinery Laboratory Manufacturers of plows and other tillage tools are much interested in the results being obtained at the Farm Tillage Machinery Laboratory (Bureau of Agricultural Engineering) at Auburn, Alabama. One company is building a bottom based on their experiences and the results of tests made at the laboratory, and are planning to send this new bottom to the laboratory for tests as soon as it is completed. Several other companies have requested information on special bottoms or are making arrangements to make cooperative tests on their equipment. (Agricultural Engineering, June).

Advertising "Last year the New Jersey State Legislature passed a Farm Products law establishing the New Jersey Council," says Willard H. Allen, State Secretary of Agriculture, in New Jersey Farm and Garden (June). "Its purpose is to advertise some of the state's many resources. The law specifically mentions the agricultural, educational, industrial, recreational and residential advantages. The council consists of sixteen members of whom three definitely represent agriculture, namely the Master of the State Grange, the President of the Farm Bureau and the Secretary of Agriculture. Serving as agricultural committee of the council, they have direct responsibility of establishing policies and directing expenditures for agricultural promotion. The act provided an appropriation of \$150,000 for one year. A similar sum is included in this year's budget.

There has been set aside from the total appropriation of the council the sum of \$32,000 for advertising farm products. Inasmuch as the money allotted to agriculture is limited, it was decided to confine all efforts to holding and developing the consuming markets within the state. The market is being reached by advertising in the New Jersey daily newspapers, by general publicity, radio broadcasting, and the distribution of leaflets and circulars with recipes on New Jersey products..."

Frozen Food Industry Principal aspects of the "quick frozen" or "frosted" foods industry are surveyed in a publication prepared by the foodstuffs division of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce. The survey was prepared by C. Roy Mundee, chief of the foodstuffs division, and Frances C. Porcher, and presents a brief history of the industry, but deals principally with the methods of preparing and packing, storage and transportation, and trade statistics on production since 1936. Another timely service to the industry incorporated in the survey is a selected list of references on quick freezing and a list of trade journal articles on this subject listed in chronological order. Statistics from trade sources show that 47 companies reported an output of 169,209,000 pounds of quick-frozen foods in 1936 while in 1937, 62 companies reported an output of 273,407,766 pounds. Trade estimates for 1938 place probable production around 480,000,000 pounds. This survey, "Quick Frozen Foods", is available upon application to the Foodstuffs Division, Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, Washington, D. C. (Better Fruit, June).

New Iowa Weed Law A new weed law for the Hawkeye state looks like it might help to clean up a lot of bad patches. No. 1 weed man R. H. Porter says at least eleven Iowa counties have appointed weed commissioners to enforce the new law. Named as primary noxious weeds under the law are perennial sow thistle, Canada thistle, European morning glory, horse nettle, leafy spurge, perennial pepper grass, Russian knapweed. Second noxious weeds are cocklebur, annual wild mustard, wild carrot, sheep sorrel, sour dock, smooth dock, puncture vine. County supervisors can appoint a weed commissioner for the county, or one for each township; towns can appoint a municipal weed commissioner. Appointments are certified to the county auditor. Commissioners' salaries are to be paid out of a weed fund, but a reasonable part is assessed against the land from which weeds have to be eradicated by the commissioners. (Farm Journal, July)

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Section 1

June 29, 1938

WORLD WHEAT REQUIREMENTS

A Rome dispatch by the Associated Press says the International Institute of Agriculture reported yesterday that this year's world wheat crop probably would be sharply above the world's needs. "The institute estimates that in the present state of things it would require an exceptional series of unfavorable circumstances for world wheat production not to be at least equal to that of last year, which was abundant," the institute stated. "It is very probable that countries normally producing more than their needs will have a strongly excessive exportable quantity, while the demands of important countries, it appears, should not be much above the level of the closing period."

EASTERN CROP DAMAGE BIG

Torrential rains continued for the third successive day to batter eastern states yesterday, causing crop and property damage estimated at more than \$4,000,000 in New Jersey, Delaware and southeastern Pennsylvania, with Burlington County, New Jersey, among the sections hardest hit, says a report in the New York Times. In New England the heaviest June rainstorm in seven years damaged crops. Farmers reported serious damage to strawberry crops but potato growers in Aroostook County, Maine, welcomed the deluge because it removed the threat of drought.

PUERTO RICO SUGAR RECORD

A San Juan cable to the New York Times says, with much sugar cane left unharvested, Puerto Rico already has passed its previous record crop by making 1,007,811 tons of sugar, while a few mills report that they will be grinding to July 15. Recent sales at \$2.65 a hundredweight are within seven cents of the record low price of May 1932. On the basis of present figures, with exports to the United States restricted to 819,344 tons, it is likely that the season will end with a carryover of more than 300,000 tons.

RURAL MEDICAL SERVICES

If you are on relief and require medical attention, be thankful if you find yourself in a large city, instead of a small town or rural area, said George St. J. Perrott, administrator director of the National Health Conference, in an address yesterday before the National Conference of Social Work in Seattle, Washington. The talk was based upon findings of a recent national health survey which covered more than 750,000 families in all parts of the country. "In the large cities," he said, "25 to 34 percent of disabling illnesses among relief families were hospitalized, as compared with about 10 percent of all such cases in the relief population in small cities in the southern and central regions." (Washington Post.)

Food and Drug Law Changes The new food and drug law, says Secretary Wallace, goes much farther than the old law in that it contains requirements for informative labeling in the interest of consumers, in addition to prohibitions against mislabeling in the old statute. Important respects in which the measure differs from the present law are: (1) the new law has jurisdiction over all cosmetics except toilet soaps (this means that the American public will be protected against dangerous cosmetics such as eyelash dyes that have been known to cause blindness); (2) brings therapeutic devices under control (in the past, many curative claims have been made for devices such as electric belts which have no value); (3) regulates drugs intended for diagnosing illness or for remedying underweight or overweight, or otherwise affecting bodily structure or function (included in this group are the so-called "slenderizers," many of which have caused blindness and death); (4) requires adequate testing of new drugs (such as the elixir of sulfanilamide) for safety before they are put on the market; (5) provides for the promulgation of definitions and standards for foods (the old law contained no such authority except for canned foods; this means that the definitions and standards which under the old law were not binding, but merely advisory, will now have legal force and effect); (6) increases penalties for violations (under the old law the maximum fine for the first offense was \$200; under the new act a first offense may be punished with a fine of \$1,000 or one year imprisonment or both); (7) eliminates the necessity for proving fraudulent intent in the labels of patent medicines (under the new law any such medicine proved to be worthless may be removed from the market); (8) requires drugs intended for use by man to bear labels warning against habit formation if they contain any of a list of narcotic or hypnotic habit-forming substances, or any derivative of any such substance which possesses the same properties.

French Grain Stabilization Confronted with the problem of a large domestic wheat surplus, the French Government has promulgated a series of decrees designed to bolster the 1936 grain price stabilization law which guarantees French farmers a price far above world market quotations, according to a report from the Paris Bureau of the Wall Street Journal. In an effort to finance, at least partially, disposal of the prospective glut of grain, the cabinet imposed a series of taxes on the sale and movement of wheat, special import levies on secondary cereals, and a surtax on oil imports. The oil surtax is expected to yield about 200,000,000 francs annually and proceeds will be used for new plant facilities to distill wheat. However, the distillation process will absorb only about a tenth or less of the expected surplus so that the balance must be exported, used for cattle feed, or purchased by the government for the national security food reserve.

Horse Report The automobile has not replaced the horse, according to Wayne Dinsmore, secretary of the Horse and Mule Association of America, who reports: There are 14,000,000 horses and mules in harness on American farms, with more being raised than ever before; there are more than 8,500 race horses and 7,500 trotting horses, and there are 500,000 riding horses. (Associated Press.)

Cotton Research Cotton classing and fiber research by the Department soon will be conducted under conditions of humidity, temperature, and air currents far more accurately controlled than heretofore, the Bureau of Agricultural Economics announces. It is believed that the Bureau's cotton classing room and laboratories, now being air-conditioned, will be the first to be equipped with several new engineering features. Special control instruments permit any variation of temperature from 32 to 100 degrees F. They allow any relative humidity from 10 to 97 percent -- practically to the point of saturation. Any temperature will not vary more than one degree up or down. For the cotton classing room a 70-degree temperature and a humidity of 65 percent will be maintained. These are standard conditions for classing under the Cotton Standards Act.

Progeny Testing The July Poultry Tribune contains "Progeny Testing Shows Value" by Dr. D. R. Marble, Pennsylvania State College. An editor's note says: "In some instances, progeny test breeding to find resistant families seems to offer hope as a successful solution of the adult mortality problem. Pennsylvania State College has received encouragement from the six-year breeding program described by Dr. Marble. The new regional poultry disease laboratory being established at East Lansing, Mich., will devote considerable research to this subject of adult mortality." The author says in summary: "Trapnesting throughout the year is not necessary in a program where livability is the key factor. It is essential to trapnest all breeders in the pedigree matings during the breeding season and pedigree hatch and wingband the progeny. From that state, the wing band can serve as the identification for posting all mortality either on the range or in the laying house. Complete and accurate mortality and culling records are absolutely essential for each family, for both the rearing period and the laying year. Breeders for the succeeding year can be selected from the best living families, but in making the final selection careful attention should be given to the vigor of the individual, and especially to the eye condition. Use only birds having clear-cut reddish-bay eyes. Birds showing any evidence to a grayish iris or deformed pupil should be discarded, regardless of the family livability."

Indiana Lambs "Indianapolis rated as one of the highest live lamb markets in the United States many times last year," says Claude Harper, Purdue University, in Breeder's Gazette (July). "Twenty years ago Indianapolis was one of the poorest live lamb markets in the entire United States. Better breeding and improved feeding practices are responsible for the change. Five years ago, fully 80 percent of the lambs marketed through the Evansville, Indiana, stockyards graded medium or below in the carcass... In 1937 over 80 percent of the lambs graded above medium in the carcass. There are two things responsible for the change. First, more than 1,000 purebred registered rams were introduced into the area for breeding purposes on grade flocks. Second, an educational program with the growers emphasized feeds adapted to economical lamb production and the relation of quality to palatable lamb meat. During the past ten years the Purdue Experiment Station in cooperation with the U.S.D.A. has attempted to find why lamb meat was unpalatable to some people. Hundreds of lambs

were used to get facts. It was discovered that lambs slaughtered when in feeder flesh made undesirable carcasses, gave unsatisfactory yields, and the meat was unpalatable when cooked. It was also discovered that lambs properly fattened and finished before they were slaughtered made desirable carcasses, satisfactory dressing yields, and provided a palatable, delicious product when it reached the table. . ."

Science and Society In a symposium on "Science and Society" at the recent meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, Dr. Stuart Rice, of the U. S. Central Statistical Board, said he looked for the greatest returns from scientific development if it is applied to the problems in the field of distributing the products of industry and technology. "In the long run, in my opinion, further applications of science to the increase of production will be required if standards of living are to be raised to new and higher levels," he said. "From both the short-run and the long-run standpoints, improvements in the mechanism of distribution and a recasting of present forms of social organization are essential if such further applications of science are to be translated into higher standards of living. What shapes the process of recasting will produce I do not know. I believe that ways can be found to reconcile social and political democracy with social efficiency in a system which will permit the untrammelled development of science and the distribution of its benefits to all of the people." Dr. Rice said the possibility of slow decay arises from "the retardation of the birth rate; the prospective stabilization or decline of national populations, the weakening or disappearance of traditional sanctions for human behavior and the failure, in western liberal, capitalistic countries, to devise efficient means for the distribution of the products of technology." (New York Times.)

W.B. Radio- A combined weather observatory and radio broadcasting meteorograph station weighing less than two pounds-- the "radiometeorograph"--will replace the airplane in making upper-air soundings at six Weather Bureau stations next month, according to Dr. W. R. Gregg, Chief of the Bureau. At Nashville, Tenn., Sault Sainte Marie, Mich., Omaha, Neb., Oklahoma City, Okla., Fargo, N.Dak., and Oakland, Calif., this newest aid to forecasters will be carried aloft each morning by a small balloon inflated with helium. The response of weather-sensitive elements in the observatory and of the instrument to changes in the surrounding atmosphere causes the miniature wireless station to send out sound signals. From their audio frequency, these signals, received at a ground station, can be transmitted into terms of temperature, pressure, and humidity of the air at all heights reached by the robot weather observer. "Regular use of the radiometeorograph," Doctor Gregg says, "marks the beginning of a new epoch in meteorological service." Until upper air data became available, forecasts depended mainly on ground observations of the distribution and movement of air masses. This system finally reached its limit in accuracy. With more upper-air data, obtained by self-recording instruments borne by balloons and airplanes, greater accuracy in forecasting now becomes possible.

DAILY DIGEST

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OMNIBUS FLOOD CONTROL ACT President Roosevelt urged yesterday in signing the \$386,500,000 omnibus flood control bill that Congress provide "as nearly as possible" a better-coordinated waterways-soil program. The program embracing flood control, soil erosion, reclamation, reforestation and navigation, the President said "involves wider surveys and examinations of more national problems than any one bureau or department is qualified for." The bill authorizes, but provides no money for, systems of flood control works on streams as far east as the Merrimac River and as far west as the Willamette and extending south to the lower Mississippi River basin. (Associated Press.)

SURPLUS U.S. WHEAT Foreign trade experts of the Department of Agriculture said yesterday unsettled political conditions in Europe might open new and larger markets for surplus United States wheat in the next twelve months. Prospects for larger sales in Europe were indicated, they said, by the recent decision of Great Britain and the Netherlands to accumulate reserve stocks of the grain in preparation for a possible outbreak of war. Foreign trade authorities said other European powers were known to be considering similar action. Trade experts estimated that European wheat imports for consumption needs in the next year would be about 450,000,000 bushels, or about 50,000,000 more than in the last twelve months. Reserve stocks were not included in the estimates. (Associated Press.)

FREIGHT RATE INCREASES Proposed freight rate increases on fruits and vegetables shipped from Pacific Coast and intermountain points to destinations in the United States and Canada were suspended by the Interstate Commerce Commission pending investigation, says a report yesterday to the New York Times. The suspension and investigation were said to have resulted from protests from the West. An example of one of the proposed increases was that on shipments of citrus fruits from the Pacific Coast to New York, which would have increased from \$1.63 to \$1.70 a hundredweight.

JAPANESE COTTON BAN A decree prohibiting private cotton imports went into effect in Japan yesterday, according to a Tokyo wireless to the New York Times. It is estimated about a year's supply remains in Japan. A Washington report in the New York Times says Japan's action to stimulate her exports and further to limit imports, especially of cotton, is not likely to affect the cotton trade between this country and Japan to any appreciable extent, economists of the Department of Commerce declared yesterday.

Prevention
of Perosis

In "Manganese Prevents Slipped Tendons" in the July Farmer's Digest (condensed from Turkey World, April) the author, J. Holmes Martin, University of Kentucky, says in part: "Recent research has shown that perosis in chicks is due to a manganese deficiency. Unpublished results at the Kentucky Station indicate that the addition of 50 parts per million of manganese to a perosis-producing ration will prevent slipped tendons in turkeys; several cases having appeared in the lot receiving the basal ration. Among the most potent 'natural sources' of manganese are (1) alfalfa leaf meal, (2) wheat bran and middlings, (3) rice bran, (4) oat feed, and (5) green feed. If the starting ration contains liberal amounts of any one or all of these feeds, then there should be little doubt but what the ration will contain over 50 parts per million of manganese (an ample supply). If the ration is low in the first four and green feed is not available, then it would be wise to add one ounce of a technical (or anhydrous) grade of manganese sulphate to each 500 lbs. of mash. The manganese compound, which should first be pre-mixed with the salt, the ground limestone or bone meal, should not increase the cost of the mash more than 2 or 3 cents a sack. Since at the Kentucky Station malformed (parrot beak) embryos and low hatchability resulted from a deficiency of manganese in the ration of Rhode Island Red hens, the turkey grower is safe in assuming that similar results would occur if his turkeys were on a manganese deficient diet. . ."

Farm Woods
Management

Part of the complete soil conservation program is farm woods -- managed farm woods. And part of management is fencing to keep out livestock; pruning, thinning by selection, shrubbery borders to weaken wind stress, and to provide food for feathered friends. The 185,000,000 acres now in woods on farms in the United States and the possibility that this area may reach a total of 250,000,000 are indications of the magnitude of this problem; another concerns farm fields which should be used for trees and shrubs. By the close of 1937, farmers had agreed to operate 1,549,000 acres of their holdings in accordance with principles of forest management drawn up by Soil Conservation Service foresters for each tract. This frequently involved the preparation of comparatively detailed, though simple plans based upon growth data, required farm needs, and the growing stock. Each plan fits definitely into the complete farm program as worked out by technicians. A total of 350,000,000 trees and shrubs had been planted on approximately 217,500 acres at the close of 1937. Although locust and various species of pine predominate in the list, many other species adapted to the various sites have been used. Other means of interesting the farmer in appreciating the farm woods, as a means of erosion control and profit, have already included the demonstration of woodland management on almost 25,000 acres in the woods of more than 5,000 cooperating farmers. (Soil Conservation, June)

Lyle Heads
Engineers

Samuel P. Lyle, Extension Agricultural Engineer, was recently inaugurated president of the American Society of Agricultural Engineers at the 32nd annual meeting. Mr. Lyle, a native of Missouri, has been with the Department since 1930. He did educational work in agricultural engineering in Arkansas for two years and was head of the Division of Agricultural Engineering at the University of Georgia for six years. He holds degrees from the State Colleges of Iowa and Kansas.

Cherries for Marmalade Cherries which have been cracked by late rains can be made into marmalade and shipped while frozen to preserve manufacturers, H. E. Mottern of the federal fruit and vegetable products laboratory (Bureau of Chemistry and Soils) at Washington State College, Pullman, declares. Experiments to process cull cherries into juices and concentrates "have not proved entirely satisfactory" but "a very fine marmalade may be prepared" as a possible outlet for large volumes of the rain-cracked cherries, he says. The marmalade would utilize sweet cherries from east of the Cascades and sour cherries from coastal regions, he added. Cherries could be frozen in barrels and shipped east to be worked into marmalade by preserve manufacturers. (Better Fruit, June.)

Mechanical Cotton Picker The greatest difficulty to be overcome in the development of a satisfactory mechanical cotton picker is the failure to harvest existing varieties of high quality seed cotton without serious damage to the lint, says Charles A. Bennett, Bureau of Agricultural Engineering. Spinning tests of cotton harvested with the newest type of mechanical picker show that "even with the use of full batteries of gin cleaners and extractors the machine-picked cotton was of appreciably lower grade and yielded much more manufacturing waste than hand-picked cotton from the same field." Machine-picked cotton, he said, is matted, carries much green leaf and occasionally has green stains on the fiber; it contains fragments of bark, stems and long grasses.

Rural Power Aids Industry John J. Carmody, rural electrification administrator, told farmers at the energizing of a new "yardstick" electrification system at Brownstown, Indiana, recently, benefits of such projects were not confined to rural districts. "Rural-line building means vast new markets for industry and increased opportunity for labor," he said, declaring farmers usually matched every REA dollar in electrical equipment purchases. The system is the first of three United States experiments in cheap farm lighting. Instead of paying a private contractor to build lines, the Jackson County Rural Electric Membership Corporation hired labor, got its own materials and bought poles off nearby farms. Government engineers oversaw the work. Seventy-three miles of line were energized. Eventually there will be 300 miles serving 1,300 consumers in three counties. (Washington Post, June 27).

Cotton for Meat Wraps A new use for cotton developed by the meat packing industry's laboratories last year consumed 6,000 bales and will consume at least 15,000 bales yearly hereafter, according to officials of the meat packing industry at Memphis, Tennessee. The industry's researchers developed an air-tight muslin cloth made from cotton for wrapping veal after the animal is slaughtered and the hide removed. The carcass is tightly wrapped with the muslin covering for shipment, the covering providing hygienic protection to the meat. Last year 7,500,000 yards of muslin, or 6,000 bales of cotton were used for the covering. More than 20,000,000 yards or 15,000 bales will be used hereafter, he said. Veal formerly was shipped with the hide on, specially processed to be air-tight. The hides could not be removed expertly, however, which damaged the meat and resulted in an economic loss. In the

new process, the calf is slaughtered with the skin on, and chilled for 12 hours. The minute the skin is removed at the packing plant, the muslin bags are slipped on fitting almost as tight as the skin itself. A waxed paper covering is wrapped around the bags to keep them clean. (Memphis Commercial Appeal, June 26).

New York Trade Mark Law New York's new trade-mark law, designed to help farmers recapture lost markets and give the consumer "what he pays for" in State agricultural products, becomes effective July 1. The law, enacted by the 1938 Legislature, authorizes the State Agricultural Commissioner to establish brands and trade-marks for farm products and provides that the revenue obtained from the sale of labels shall be used to advertise the products they mark. "In my opinion, the law offers tremendous possibilities," Commissioner Holton V. Noyes says. "It will help producers of farm products recapture markets which may have been lost and will protect distributors and consumers." (New York Times, June 26.)

Potato Seed Certification "A leading dealer in one of the Western States who had sold more than 70,000 sacks of seed in one potato-growing section said the seed was free from disease, but that, 'due largely to weather and soil conditions some of it showed black leg'," says an editorial in the American Potato Journal (June). "The growers now insist that the seed should not have been certified. Many of the difficulties between the producer and the consumer of certified seed potatoes have arisen from the fact that the consumer has been improperly advised concerning what he can expect when he purchases certified seed potatoes. Many believe, for example, that when they purchase certified seed, this should be free from rhizoctonia. The consumer must be advised that it is partly his responsibility to see that this disease is eliminated from the seed. The situation with regard to black leg is particularly bad, for if black leg is found in the crop the grower places the blame on faulty certification. This is to be expected in view of the fact that the certification authorities have implied that black leg, like mosaic and leaf roll, could be largely eliminated by the usual field and tuber inspections. There is sufficient evidence to show that this is not the case. Leach in Minnesota and Bonde in Maine have demonstrated that the disease is carried only to a slight extent in seed potatoes. It is very much to be desired that the recommendations in connection with this disease made at the Baton Rouge Conference be adopted by all states certifying seed potatoes."

Homemade Homes "A 'homemade home campaign,' started last September in Arkansas," says the Farm Journal (July), "makes available (at no cost) through county and home demonstration agents in every county, plans for low-cost convenient, comfortable and beautiful farm homes. Already, according to Agricultural Engineer Deane G. Carter, who with his staff of assistants made possible this plan service, requests for plans have topped all previous records. County and home demonstration agents in 18 northeast Arkansas counties were asked for 189 blueprints for farm buildings within two months. Requests range all the way from plans for the home itself to plans for storage cellars, and include requests for blueprints, calling for use of native field stone, logs, lumber, or combinations of these. . . ."

